

POINT *by* POINT

Issue 4

Fall 1999

2nd Annual North Toronto Community Fair

POINT invites everyone to come out to this special event. Many local non-profit organizations will be there to provide you with a wide range of information on the various social, recreational, and health services which they offer in North Toronto. Also, learn about "Heart Healthy Cooking" and sample some new recipes at a number of cooking demonstrations to be held during the fair.

**Thursday, October 21,
1999**

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

at the

**Yonge-Eglinton Centre
Centre Court**

For more information please call
POINT at 487-2390

Having a Say in New City Official Plan

In March, 1999 the Toronto City Council approved "The Framework for the New Official Plan for Toronto" and launched its New Official Plan process. At present, the City of Toronto currently has seven official plans dating from before the amalgamation of the municipalities. This new planning process is an attempt to make sense of the common values and interests of the diverse communities across the city.

POINT has always been proactive in shaping the social landscape of North Toronto. As a social planning and development agency, POINT was in the forefront of developing The Anne Johnston Health Station, a driving force behind the creation of the North Toronto Community Centre and in the initiation of programs such as the City of Toronto Block Parent Program, and the Upper Yonge Village Day Care Centre.

In its role as a social planning agent, POINT decided to facilitate a series of community meetings to provide a forum for people to discuss planning issues and priorities in North Toronto due to the social implication of any official plan. POINT then compiled a brief report summarizing any consensus reached, for submission to the City Planning Department as part of the New Official Plan process.

On June 8th POINT sponsored its first community meeting on the new

Official Plan and invited local ratepayer and environmental groups, and welcomed individuals who expressed an interest. The first meeting was an information session with Paul Bedford of the city's planning department. The three follow-up meetings allowed participants to share their diverse views of our community and the problems we all face in Toronto.

Through the community meetings, most people agreed that "North Toronto is a community valued by its residents and merchants. Recent arrivals mix with families who have lived in the area for generations. We are actively concerned with children's and seniors' issues. Change can be positive but also potentially disruptive. We are citizens who expect to be heard on matters that affect the place where we live".

Many thanks to all who participated in the meetings, and for providing valuable insight and input to form the North Toronto Community Official Plan submission.

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PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS
IN NORTH TORONTO



Pointing the way.

Point Volunteers Receive Volunteer Service Awards

Established in 1984, the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards recognize and thank volunteers for their continuous years of voluntary service to an organization. Volunteers are the backbone of many non-profit, charitable organizations. Without the commitment and dedication of volunteers, who give freely of their time, talents and expertise, many agencies would find it hard to stay in business.

On June 29th six POINT volunteers were recognized by the Ontario Government for their continuous commitment to POINT. Joan Berndt, Mary Brereton, Fran Brown, Michael Johnson, Cynthia Luks, and Alma Stoneman received the Ontario Volunteer Service Award at a ceremony held at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. POINT has benefited greatly over the past ten years from the exceptional contributions made by these volunteers. Through their leadership, support of new initiatives and commitment to existing programs, POINT has been able to meet the needs and strengthen the North Toronto community.

Since 1993 **Joan Berndt** has been a moving force within POINT. Joan has provided leadership as Chair of the Board and further developed the organization by taking an active role in fund raising, volunteer recruitment and latterly by chairing the PLANTSS (Planning for Senior Services in North Toronto) Committee.

Mary Brereton has been an active participant in the success of POINT. Throughout her ten year involvement with POINT, she has been Chair of the POINT Board, a member of the Ewart Angus Homes Board, and a member of the PLANTSS Committee.

Supporting new community initiatives, **Fran Brown** was the key POINT representative in the planning and development of The Anne Johnston Health Station from 1986 to 1992. Recently Fran was a member of, and Co-chaired, the POINT Ambassador Group. Over the past twelve years, Fran has also provided leadership to POINT as a board member, Chair of the POINT Board and Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Over the past five years, **Michael Johnson** has offered direction to PLANTSS as a member and Chair of the Housing Sub-Committee, and is presently a member of the Board of Ewart Angus Homes. (POINT has been a supporter in the development of Ewart Angus Homes).

Cynthia Luks has been involved with POINT for eleven years as both a member and Chair of the POINT Board and PLANTSS committee. Cynthia is currently Co-chair of the the PLANTSS Abbeyfield Homes Sub-Committee. This is an exciting and innovative concept aimed at developing new housing for seniors.

Since we are living in an age of information, accessing information is critical. **Alma Stoneman** has played a key role in the development and growth of POINT's Community Information Service (CIS). Since 1993 Alma has been a CIS volunteer, trained new CIS volunteers and has also been a valued member on the CIS Committee.

Congratulations to these very special people!

Community Resources

As your neighbourhood information service, we can POINT you in the right direction!

Q *I am new to the North Toronto area and have a young family. I would like to get out during the day and some evenings. Would you have a list of people willing to babysit in my neighbourhood?*

A Yes, POINT offers a Babysitting and Nanny Registry as a means of putting caregivers in contact with parents seeking such care. The registry binder is on display at the POINT desk in the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, during the Centre's operating hours.

POINT Community Information Service (CIS) (416) 487-2427, located on the first floor of the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, 200 Eglinton Ave. West.

POINT's Wish List



A picture is worth 1,000 words and POINT is in need of a **35mm camera** in good condition for pictures of POINT programs and volunteers in action. Film would also be appreciated.

POINT To Launch A Community Needs Assessment

Throughout its thirty year history, People and Organizations in North Toronto (POINT) has worked with other organizations and individuals to identify social issues and gaps in services in the North Toronto community. POINT is pleased to announce that the Stratton Fund, part of the portfolio of the Toronto Community Foundation, has approved funding for POINT to carry out a community needs assessment.

North Toronto has worked well as a community, because of the outstanding contributions by volunteers and agencies. But North Toronto cannot be complacent. Our population and

the world around us are changing. At the same time, funding constraints have reduced the capacity of agencies and voluntary organizations to look beyond existing mandates.

During the next nine months,

Working Group Will Seek Advice About Current And Future Community Needs

a working group will seek advice and information from organizations and individuals in North Toronto about the current and future needs of our community. After preliminary consultation, in-depth profiles will be

developed of significant needs. The profiles will identify related issues, existing services, systemic barriers and potential partners, then there will be further community consultation refining the profiles and seeking collaborations for evolving strategy planning.

The project will lay a foundation on which to build community capacity to respond to current and future needs of those who live, work or go to school in North Toronto. The project's approach will be collaborative and nonpartisan. For further information, call Diane Werner at POINT 487-2390.



NEWS FLASH!



POINT is excited to announce that we will soon be connected to the Internet and have our own WebPage. Through our successful application to the new VolNet program, POINT will receive a subsidized Pentium II Computer system, free Internet connectivity and access for one year, free Internet skills training, and ongoing support. VolNet is a federal government initiative administered by Industry Canada, to improve the voluntary sector's access to information technology. POINT hopes to have its WebPage up and running by January 2000. See you on the Net!

Youth Will Have A Greater Voice In North Toronto

Coming to North Toronto this autumn is an exciting new development for the empowerment of youth. The North Toronto Forum on Youth Issues (NTFYI) hopes to provide a forum within which youth can voice their concerns regarding the issues that affect their daily lives and suggest innovative new ways in which to solve them.

Though youth make up nearly 10% of the population of North Toronto, their ideas can often go unnoticed as there are few places in which young people can take part in the decision making process. This vast under representation presents a barrier to youth which can lead to a feeling of isolation from the larger community. NTFYI seeks to remove that barrier, empowering youth to take a proactive role within North

Toronto! NTFYI will have its inaugural meeting on November 16, 1999 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre. The meeting will focus upon the increasing concern of youth homelessness. Those in attendance will have a chance to debate the issue and develop a strategy by which NTFYI could help by playing its part in addressing this concern. There will also be an opportunity to discuss any other topics of interest introduced by those in attendance.

The NTFYI presents a unique opportunity for young people to take part in the decision making process, be heard on issues that matter to them, and take action on those issues. In doing so young people will contribute to in their community, and strengthen the social fabric of North Toronto.

Mark Your Calendar !

◆ 2nd Annual North Toronto Community Fair

Thursday, October 21, 1999, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Yonge Eglinton Centre, Centre Court. For more information call POINT at 487-2390.

◆ North Toronto Forum On Youth Issues

Tuesday, November 16, 1999, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., North Toronto Memorial Community Centre. For more information, please call POINT at 487-2390.

Seniors' Community Dining Program

Made possible through partnerships with: SPRINT, Parkdale Golden Age Foundation, POINT, The Department of Parks and Recreation (North Toronto Memorial Community Centre), and the Department of Public Health.

Location: North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, 200 Eglinton Ave. West. Tickets (\$4.50) can be purchased at the POINT kiosk desk in the Community Centre on the 1st floor. Reservations can also be made by calling POINT at 487-2390.

Wednesday Lunch	Friday Dinner	Sunday Brunch
October 6, 13, 20, 27	October 15, 29	October 24
November 3, 10, 17, 24	November 19	November 14, 28
December 1, 8, 15	December 17	December 12

Board of Directors

Chair: Pat Taylor

Treasurer: Paul Stellini

Secretary: Neil Campbell

Directors: Gail Arena, Ruth Armitage, Anne Dunlop, Elizabeth Edmison, Barbara English, Barbara Fleming, Adrian Johnston, Gene Lara, Maureen McEwen.

How to Reach Us

POINT Office

Telephone: (416) 487-2390

Fax: (416) 487-9276

Open: Monday to Friday

Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Community Information Service

Telephone: (416) 487-2427

Open: Monday to Friday

Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

North Toronto Memorial
Community Centre,
200 Eglinton Ave. W., 1st Floor
Toronto, Ontario, M4R 1A7

POINT by POINT

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POINT Membership Form

- ☐ Yes! I would like to **become a member** of POINT. My membership fee is enclosed. Please add my name to your mailing list. As a member, I will receive the POINT quarterly newsletter, voting privileges at the Annual General Meeting, and other information bulletins. A charitable tax receipt will also be issued.

Name _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Postal Code: _____
Tel: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Membership Fee:

Individual \$10.00

Agency/Organization/Business \$25.00

Method of Payment:

Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Signature _____

Exp. Date: _____ Card # _____

Cheque: Please make cheque payable to P.O.I.N.T. Inc.

Charitable Registration # 10785 0422 RR 0001



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